

## Emancipation of Slaves

Read Luke 13:10-17

Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

If you had been sick for eighteen years with your back so crippled that you could not straighten up, it would be a day long remembered if you were suddenly healed. It was such a day for the woman who met Jesus in the synagogue. Jesus tells us that she had been bound by Satan. She came into the presence of Jesus and her whole life was changed. From one bowed down in pain she became one that stood erect and praised God.

Many people are still bound by Satan. Their lives are crooked and they are unable to straighten themselves out. They need to have a meeting with Jesus and hear His work that frees the sinner.

### I. The Slaves of Satan are found in all classes and ranks of men

1. Some are in such a condition that all can realize that they are slaves. Here we see the drunkard, the harlot, the drug addict and others like them. These are driven by a sinful habit that they are entirely unable to break. They themselves seek by good resolutions and promises to break away from the tyrant that holds them. The longer they struggle the more they realize the awful hold that Satan can have on lives he is permitted to chain by sin.

2. Some of the slaves of sin boast of their freedom. They say like the Pharisees said to Jesus: "We were never in bondage . . ." And they seek to demonstrate their freedom by continuing in sin. They think that they can do as they please as they chase after the one sinful pleasure after the other. And in the meantime Satan is binding them with more and more of his chains. It is his aim to keep a person imagining he is free till he is so entangled that he is entirely in the power of the enemy of every human soul. Such a person who boasts of his freedom is the most hopelessly lost. Not only his body but also his will is given into the service of Satan. He is not only a slave of the devil but he is his willing slave.

3. Some of the slaves are aware of their plight. If you have been awakened to realize that you are a slave of sin and Satan, then thank God for that. If the realization has come to you that you are entirely unable to free yourself then here is good news for you.

### II. Jesus can set free from the bondage of Satan.

1. He frees the captive with his word. It was His word spoken to the impotent woman that freed her of her bonds. It is His word about His atonement . . . that He has "Bought me and freed me from all sin, from death and from the power of the devil", that the sinner needs to hear. You who are entirely under the bondage of Satan and unable to help yourself or free yourself can walk out into liberty on the strength of His almighty word. "When the Son shall make you free ye shall be free indeed."

2. It is important that you get into contact with Jesus. He is not walking about in the flesh as He was at the time in our text. But you can meet Jesus where His children are. He said to them, "Lo, I am with always, even unto the end . . ." The impotent woman met Jesus at the synagogue. You have a chance of meeting Jesus if you go where the Christians meet. If you go seeking Him He will meet you there.

3. Listen as He speaks emancipation to you through the hymns and

## I Have a Stewardship Entrusted to Me!

### SCHEDULE OF CONFERENCES

Circuit	Date	Place
Moose Jaw	Oct. 25-27	Torquay
Swift Current	Oct. 27-29	Swift Current
S. Alberta	Oct. 25-27	Enchant
Yorkton	Nov. 1-3	Zion, Melville
Prince Albert	Nov. 3-5	Prince Albert
Saskatoon	Nov. 1-3	Hanley
Edmonton	Nov. 1-3	Edmonton
Camrose	Nov. 3-5	Camrose

Guest speaker at Moose Jaw, Swift Current, Edmonton and Camrose, Dr. A. J. Bergsaker. At Enchant, Melville, Prince Albert, Pastor Mars A. Dale. At Hanley, Pastor M. S. Johnson.

### FALL STEWARDSHIP MEETINGS

The emphasis at the Fall circuit meetings this year throughout our District is Stewardship. There will be a guest speaker at each place and the implications of Stewardship will be thoroughly discussed.

We are stewards, not owners. Perhaps no better definition of Christian Stewardship can be given than that of Crawford:

"It is the recognition and fulfillment of personal privilege and responsibility for the administration of the whole life—personality, time, talent, influence, material substance, everything—in accordance with the spirit and ideals of Christ."

What is Christian Stewardship?

Let a little boy of thirteen answer:

"Stewardship means that life is a great ship loaded with a rich cargo of many things to be delivered to many peoples in many places. God is the owner of the ship, but I am the captain. Everything I have aboard, all my possessions, my talents, my health, my strength, my personality, my privileges, my money, is a cargo to be delivered. God has entrusted it to me for His children in every place. I do not own what I possess; I owe it. God has made me the captain of His ship (His steward), and it is my job to bring the ship to the right port and discharge the cargo. That stewardship, everything that I have aboard, is for delivery."

It is of utmost significance that we view everything in the light of the Word of God. We daily deal with life values and material means that we call our own. God says, however: "Ye are not your own; for ye are bought with a price." That indicates that we cannot do as we please but must use our means in the light of the Word and with the thought of eternity. We shall some day give an account of our Stewardship.

Through the length and breadth of our District stewardship is emphasized at this time. There is something thrilling in the thought of it—our whole district receiving an impetus to greater stewardship responsibility.

May the impact of this splendid undertaking be revealed in a greater kingdom-vision manifested in a generous sharing of our material means where help is needed.

Let us pray for a deeper stewardship consciousness.

through the sermons. If you will take Him at His word as He thus speaks to you He will say of you, "Blessed is he who has not seen and yet has believed."

—J. Selmer Stolee.

### The Luther League and the District Stewardship Program

Each of our Luther Leagues is interested in education and stewardship and those leagues organized on the Every-Member Plan have committees bearing these names. But whether you are so organized or not, as a Leaguer you must be interested in stewardship education.

This fall our church is centering its thoughts on stewardship, and Circuit rallies are being held in all of our circuits with this in mind. Since we as Leaguers make up a part of our circuit membership, we, too, must enter wholeheartedly into this program. Likely most of our Leaguers have read the letter sent out by District President Dale this summer. If you haven't, do so now. You will soon be receiving a new booklet written by Pastor Dale, entitled, "The Ministry of Giving." That, too, you ought to read carefully. Maybe your League wants to devote one of its meetings to the topic of Stewardship. Perhaps you want to distribute the tract our L.L. office has published—also by Pastor Dale—"One in Every Ten." But whatever your method, the fact is that our Luther League must support this program in every possible way, put our shoulder to the wheel and make it go. If our Leaguers alone were to become vitally interested in the matter of stewardship, soon our whole district would follow suit.

God's blessings to us are manifold. His grace through Jesus Christ is so great that we can never repay even a small part of the debt we owe our gracious Lord. But we can show our thankfulness in our Christian stewardship of life, of time, and of possessions. **Support the Stewardship Education Program of our District with your prayers, enthusiasm, and means!**

—O. K. S.

### Beatitudes for Teachers

Blessed are you teachers: for you have found your work.

Blessed are you teachers: for you are freed from the temptation to put your trust in money.

Blessed are you teachers: for yours is the kingdom of children.

Blessed are you teachers: for your associates are among the world's best.

Blessed are you teachers: for your work is constantly realizing your selfhood.

Blessed are you teachers: for you may "allure to brighter worlds" of truth and life and "lead the way."

Blessed are you teachers: for you have kinship with the great sharing souls of all mankind.

Blessed indeed are you teachers: for you have an Elder Brother, who is the Great Teacher, even of the whole world.

—H. H. Horne

## Grace Alone

For years the young monk had struggled to find peace with God. He had fasted, said Mass and prayers, and even tortured himself, but could never rest assured that he had done enough to pay for his sins and win favor with God. His best efforts to merit salvation only showed how incurably wicked was his heart and how irreconcilable, by the best efforts of sinful man, was the holy God. The disillusioned and exhausted young Martin Luther could see only dark and gloomy clouds of wrath and judgment over him.

A rift came in the clouds and a glimpse of the sunlight of God's grace. He had found a Bible and was reading it eagerly. Here were promises of full and free forgiveness of sins through the work and merits of Christ. The sin-sick Luther looked away from himself, his own works, efforts and merit to God's grace alone. Trusting in God's mercy in Christ Who paid for all our sins he found forgiveness and peace.

God's grace alone, instead of man's goodness or merit as a basis for our salvation—that is Bible truth, but not a popular doctrine. By nature men are Catholics, they want to do something to earn or merit salvation. And the tragedy is that so many think they succeed because unlike Luther they do not honestly face the demands of a holy God. They remold God in their thoughts to what they think He should be and revise His holy demands to conform more nearly to their abilities to meet them. To such, "Grace Alone" is too foolish and humiliating. Unlike Luther they feel no pains of sin-sickness, for self-righteousness is their opiate, under which influence they sleep into death.

Because Luther did not sidestep God's law, the Holy Spirit was permitted to gouge out his self-righteousness and fit him to receive God's grace and to channel it to others. Let God also gouge out an entrance and channel in us for His grace. Thank God for Luther, may He in His mercy raise up a Luther for our day. The grace of God in Christ Jesus is the only hope for the world.—A. K. H.

### How Much Shall We Keep?

A servant of God had a little girl whom he was eager should be brought up to serve Him. He wanted to teach her that we should give one-tenth of our possessions to God. One day he called her into his study, where he had arranged ten piles of money. And he said:

"You see, I have ten piles of money here. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine—belong to me; but this tenth one belongs to God." The little girl said: "Oh, Father, are you going to keep all the nine for yourself?"—King's Business.

### "PLEASED TO MIND"

"I wish I could mind God as my little dog minds me," said a little boy, looking thoughtfully at his shaggy friend; "he always looks so pleased to mind, and I don't." What a painful truth did this child speak! Shall the poor little dog thus readily obey his master, and we rebel against God, who is our Father, our Creator, our Savior, our Preserver, and the bountiful Giver of everything we love?

—From Spurgeon's Sermon Illustrations.

When love and skill worketh together expect a masterpiece.—John Ruskin.



## The Shepherd - Hyrden

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### FALL STEWARDSHIP MEETINGS

This issue of the Shepherd emphasizes stewardship. The list on Page 1 of the places where stewardship conferences and circuit meetings will be held indicates that the emphasis is district-wide. Peace River Circuit led the way with the first conference earlier in the year. It was a successful conference and made a great impact with its Christ centred stewardship program.

It will be a great forward step in our district work when the implications of Christian Stewardship becomes generally known and practiced. It will speed up the work, and make possible greater expansion. Not only that, but it brings a special blessing to the individual who learns to know that all belongs to God. The following paragraph is found in the October issue of "My Father's Business":

"Stewardship is faith in action, it is love in action. It embraces all human values; time, talents, personality, money, and spiritual resources. It takes into account every phase of human living. It is the investment of our whole life in God."

Pray for the coming stewardship meetings.

### META ADELLE NERVICK

"Building For Eternity" was the theme of the Luther League convention at Kenora, Ontario, July 1-8. In the inspiring sessions we learned that Meta Nervick was inspired and helped by the messages.

Near the close of the convention the need of building for eternity was forcibly and unforgettably impressed on the conventioners when a car with five young people plunged over a dock into the waters of the Lake of the Woods. Three were miraculously saved, but the driver of the car and Meta Nervick were ushered into eternity.

Meta Nervick was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Nervick of Atwater, Saskatchewan. During the school year Meta was music teacher, and as associate member of First Lutheran Church in Regina also served as organist. She was a gifted musician having attained her A.T.C.M. in 1942. She was delegate to the convention and accompanist for the musical programs at Bible Camp and Luther League Convention at Kenora.

Her life was short, but rich. She made an impact for the cause of our Lord Jesus Christ in her short life. Now she is gone, but loved ones and friends are assured that she had been building for eternity and is now at home with her Lord.

The funeral service was conducted by Pastor H. Melby assisted by Pastor A. A. Nelson from Regina. She was laid to rest in the Lutheran cemetery near Atwater. There were flowers in abundance and gifts of money given in her memory. Christina Ladies' Aid gave \$10 to the W.M.F. for which a memorial certificate was given in honor of Meta Nervick.

Blessed be her memory.

### Church Dedication at Prince Albert

From the Prince Albert Lutheran Messenger we glean the news that there will be a church dedication and cornerstone laying on Sunday, Nov. 3. Pastor Mars Dale will officiate.

A Junior L.C.R. was recently organized in the Prince Albert congregation.

Rev. Arthur N. Solheim and Miss Elora Berg were united in marriage at Penzance Lutheran Church September 10.

### Power For This Hour

A significant meeting was held in Minneapolis on October 9 when the recently appointed District Directors, together with the District Presidents, met to plan a church-wide evangelistic effort for 1947 under the title "Power For This Hour."

Circuit directors were appointed and the date for the district rallies were set. Publicity will be given this effort and with the circuit rallies adding emphasis to it, there are great possibilities of blessing. Pray that the Lord will bless the endeavors.

### A Self-Supporting Church

We are looking forward to a great year in our Church in Canada. We know that this stewardship program will reap results. Our people are already beginning to respond. There seems to be a strong desire in the hearts of our people to make our Church in Canada self-supporting. At present about \$35,000 comes to us in Canada from our church at large. We have returned, through the budget, about \$15,000. We still have \$20,000 to go. We will make it through doubling our contributions until the amount is raised. Then too, there should be some gain each year by home missions congregations taking on more responsibility until they finally become self-supporting. Is it too much to expect that within the next five years we become a church that stands on its own feet? "Self-supporting in 1951" should be the slogan of every one of our people and congregations in Canada. Let us make it just that and then get out and see it accomplished. (From the District President's Letter)

### Lutheran Hour

#### Million-Dollar Enterprise

Expansion of the International Lutheran Hour to include 800 radio stations in this country and abroad has put the Sunday program into the million-dollar enterprise bracket. It now costs approximately \$20,000 weekly to operate. Twenty-eight territories and foreign countries carry the program, which is sponsored by the Laymen's League of the Missouri Synod.

A powerful outlet has been obtained in Andorra, between the French and Spanish borders, for English broadcasts to be beamed to the British Isles. Additional negotiations are under way to procure time on stations in Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, Holland, Iceland, Luxembourg, Norway, Portugal, Rumania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey.

(From St. Louis)

The Rev. P. B. Stolee, Fort Dauphin, Madagascar, is editor and author of a Malagasy primer of 48 large pages. The W.M.F. paid for having 10,000 copies printed. As this primer will be used all over the island it is likely that 100,000 copies will soon be in circulation.

We are always complaining that our days are few, and acting as though there would be no end to them.

### The Canadian Lutheran Bible Institute

Opening services for the 1946-47 school year will be held at the Institute October 29 at 8 p.m. Pastor Raymond Olson of Armena will bring the message.

There will be students in attendance from Tilley, Rolling Hills, Bawlf, Armena, Hay Lakes, Donalds, Valhalla Centre, La Glace, Sexsmith, Sedgewick, and Crescent Spur, B.C.

A group of volunteer workers have spent time in painting and cleaning the building. This necessary work will be finished by the time school opens.

The teachers are the dean, together with Pastors C. A. Bernhardson and P. B. Stolee.

We commend the school to the prayers, interest and support of our people.

### BOOK REVIEW

The Boy who fought with Kings. Published by Augsburg Publishing House, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Written by Edna and Howard Hong, illustrated by John Ellingboe.

This is a delightful publication both from the viewpoint of content and workmanship. It is filled with graphic colored pictures that help to illustrate the text.

Children enjoy it. They get a vivid picture of the life of Martin Luther, for it was he who fought with kings. The language is simple and clear and in a captivating way brings out the outstanding incidents in the great reformer's life.

It is written by the co-authors of Muskego Boy and has the same intensely interesting narrative form.

It makes a fine Christmas present. It will give children an appreciation of the reformation even when they are young.

### S.L.B.I. Seeks to Serve the Luther League and L.D.R., Train Leaders and Workers, and Promote Good Reading Through Reading Projects From the Bookstore

Christ, the greatest leader the world will ever know, spent time in preparation. He was found in the temple together with the leaders of the Church. He then served the hungry multitudes by training leaders and workers for the fields that were fast becoming white unto harvest. S.L.B.I. also seeks to serve by training leaders and workers who by the Grace of God are willing to go and serve to His glory and honor. This has been an important phase in our social life ever since the time of Moses when he was exhorted to "provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating unjust gain; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens". They were to serve the people through their leadership. S.L.B.I. seeks to serve by providing such God-fearing workers, to serve as leaders by enabling students to "study to show themselves approved unto God, workmen that need not be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of truth". If our Church is to go forward it will need trained leaders and workers. This prayer is being answered as God calls forth students to attend S.L.B.I.

Not only does S.L.B.I. seek to serve by training individual leaders, but also through organized groups such as the Luther League and L.D.R. the students are brought face to face with the value of Christian organizations. S.L.B.I. proves to youth that working together in such a way is necessary for growth and development in the Christian life. The Church is composed of individual members, but these members have to work together in order to be most effective. We are the bricks—the organizations are the building.

Then too, S.L.B.I. seeks to serve by supplying reading project sets from the Bookstore. The choice of good

### ET INTERVIEW MED DØDEN

"Er du døden?" spurte jeg.

"Ja, det er mitt navn; det er i hvert fall hvad man kaller mig," svarte døden.

"Død, du maa være meget gammel," sa jeg.

"Ja, men jeg er saa virksom og energisk som noensinne."

"Du maa ha det meget travelt?"

"Ja, jeg arbeider baade tidlig og sent og hviler aldri. Ser du, jeg er alene i denne forretningsbransje, jeg har ingen konkurrenter."

"Hvad slags mottakelse faar du i alminnelighet?"

"Aa," svarte døden, "noen mennesker blir ytterst forskrekket, naar de faar bud om at jeg er i anmarsj. Andre byder mig velkommen—dette synes du vel er underlig, men der finnes mange mennesker for hvem livet er en byrde. De kjemper med fattigdom, sykdom, sult og sorg, og naar jeg saa kommer tror de at de blir fri for alle sine lidelser."

"Du har vel vært vitne til mange hjerteskjærende scener under utøvelsen av ditt kall?"

"Ja, der graates, og mange hjerter brister av sorg over skilsmisken. Intet kan dog stanse den haand jeg strekker ut etter mitt bytte. Føl hvor kald og sterk den er! Lunger opphører at aande og hjerter stanser sine slag, naar den faller paa menneskene."

"Men har du slett ingen medhjelpere?"

"Jo, noen mennesker dør før det er deres tid; de ødelegger sig selv ved utsvevelser, drikk osv., og de letter mig mitt arbeide."

"Fortell mig om onen av dem du har besøkt."

"Jeg kommer nettopp fra en rikmanns dødsseng. Han var bange for at dø. "Jeg har spildt mitt liv," sa han, "med at jage etter rikdom. Gullet har vært min Gud, intet kan jeg ta med mig, og hvad venter mig bak døden?"

Saa var jeg hos en mann som alltid hadde sagt han ikke trodde paa noen Gud. Hans skrik var fryktelig at høre paa. "Evigheten," sa han, "saa anderledes ut fra dødsleiet enn ellers."

Det var ogsaa en ung mann som bad saa inderlig om at hans liv maatte bli spart. Hans fremtidsutsikter var saa lyse. Han var heller ikke rede til at møte sin Gud.

Jeg møtte en ung pike i dansesalen; da hun folte berøringen av min kolde haand, skrek hun og sa hun var for ung til at dø, døden var kun for gamle, visne folk, ikke for henne. Derfra gikk jeg til en bekjennende kristen. Hans liv hadde vært et hykleri—et usselt skall uten kjerne. Han gyste da jeg nærmet mig. Og saa var der en frafallen. Hans sjelekval var fryktelig. "Jeg har solgt min frelser," ropte han, "der er intet haap for mig!" "Dette," sa døden, "var en av de verste scener jeg har sett."

"Død," sa jeg, "si mig hvordan en kristen dør. Er han bange for dig?"

Hvordan en kristen dør?" sa han langsomt, som talte han til sig selv. "Nei, han frykter mig ikke. I kveld har jeg vært hos en kristen; det var en kvinne. Hun hadde lidt fryktelig, men da jeg kom sang hun med sin svake stemme:

"Dig, Jesus, jeg elsker i liv og i død, dig, Jesus, jeg elsker i lyst og i nød! Naar døden mig kaller, jeg sier ennu:

Jeg aldri har elsket dig, Jesus, som nu!"

Salige er de døde som dør i Herren. —"Falken."

reading material in the home, Luther League and L.D.R. is of vital importance. Too often this is neglected and the minds of the people are warped because of what they read. S.L.B.I. has complete sets of good reading material which is both wholesome and upbuilding. It is their desire to serve even in this manner, and it is your privilege to be served.

—Margaret Braathen



# Hyrden

JEG ER DØREN TIL FAARENE.—Joh. 10:7

Wadena, Sask., Andet No. i October, 1946.

## Den Store Helgenskare

Allehelhelgens dag—Luk. 6:20-26

Vaar tanke løfter seg op til alle de som i Jesu navn har forlatt dette liv og naa er hjemme hos Gud. De levet sitt liv hernede under samme vilkaar som vi. De hadde sine prøvelser, gjenvordigheter og kamper som vi har. Men naar vi saa tenker paa at de har vunnet den store seier, stridt den gode strid og er kommet vel i gjennom—maa da ikke vi som ennaa er paa veien og er midt oppe i striden gripes av en brennede iver etter aa naa fram hvor de er og dele deres glede?

Men ønsker vi aldri aa miste deres fotefar av syne, da maa vi spørre: Hva var det eiendommelige hos dem som hjalp dem til aa vinne fram? Paa dette spørsmaal gir Jesus oss svar i dagens evangelium. Han priser sine disipler salige—slike som er fattige i seg selv, som hungre og graater, som forfølges og spottes. Fattigdom, hunger, sorg kjennemerker ofte Jesus sanne disipler. Det var vistnok mange omkring ham som var fattige i utvortes forstand, men deres indre fattigdom hadde hjulpet dem til en indre fatigdom. De var blitt fattige i aanden. Og det er det særmerke som skal finnes hos alle Jesu disipler hvordan deres ytre kaar enn er.

De fattige i aanden har hverken i seg selv eller i verden det som kan tilfredsstille dem. De kjenner seg ganske avhengig av Gud. De kommer som tiggere til hans naades dør for aa faa av ham alt det deres sjel dypest skal leve av. De kjenner lengselen etter Gud og hunger etter rettferdighet. De lenges ikke bare etter aa synes rettferdige i verdens øyne. Nei, de lenges etter aa bli virkelige gode, rene og kjærlige i sitt indre liv. Men paa samme tid kjenner de seg urettferdige, urene og ukjærlige i seg selv. Derfor sørger de over seg selv. Ofte gaar de inn i lønnekamret og graater over seg selv.

Jesus beklager ikke slike fattige og hungre mennesker. Tvertimot han priser dem salige, og han beklager slike som er rike, mette, tilfredse, alle de som har nok i seg selv og verden, som strutter av selvtillfredshet, som ikke vet hva det er aa lenges etter et dypere livsinnhold, men ler med en kaat latter over sine tomme gleder. Over slike roper Jesus et sorgfullt ve.

Men de fattige i aanden som hunger etter rettferdighet og sørger over seg selv, de som aapner sitt hjerte for himmelens gave—de blir mett og gledet med Guds naade i Jesus Kristus. De lever av den himmelske kjærlighet. De er stadig paa veien fram mot Gud og fyllden i Jesus Kristus. Derfor er de salige mennesker.

Slik var deres hjerteliv som vi minnes idag. Vi minnes hele rekken av disipler, fra apostlene og til de siste som er gaat hjem til Gud. Som en lang lysstripe gjennom alle verdens mørke aarhundreder er alle disse som gikk i Jesu følge. De har gjort verden et bedre sted aa bo paa. De har bedt om og kjempet for Guds rikes framgang i verden. Vi tenker paa dem med de store navn i kirkens historie, og paa de stille i landet, de store skarer hvis "navne ei for menden finkle," men som var tro i sin lille avkrok av verden. Og vi tenker paa dem vi hadde kjær, og som gikk bort i Jesu navn. Vi tror at de naa er hjemme hos Gud fordi de hadde faatt alle sine synders naadige forlatelse av naade og de elsket Jesus. Naa er de mett av beskuelsen av sin Frelser aasyn. Vi takker Gud for dem. Vaart liv hadde blitt fattig uten dem.

Men la oss saa med tanken paa den store helgenskare be Gud ydmykt om

## ANFEKTELSE

Anfektelsens aasaker kan være forskjellige. Det skal ikke skjules at grunnen til aandelig depresjon og mørke dypest sett ofte er synden. Ulydighet og synd, som ikke bekjennes for Gud, fører sjelen inn i anfektelsens mørke. "Da jeg tidde, borttæres mine ben," Salm. 32, 3. Med slike nederlag i livet følger at det blir slutt med bønnelivet og bruken av Guds ord. Naar saa Guds aand faar med samvittigheten aa gjøre, saa kommer anfektelsene for aa redde sjelen ut av søvn og selvbedrag. — Men ogsaa Guds barn, som faar naade til aa leve det vaakne liv med Gud, kan bli ført inn i anfektelsens natt og nød. Livets tunge tilskikkelser med lidelsens hvorfor bringer ofte med seg anfektelse og dyp sjelenød, Salm. 73 Kristelig erfaring vet ogsaa aa fortelle, at etter Tabor følger de dype daler. Den vakte sjel har ved troen paa evangeliet faatt tilegne seg syndsforlatelsen og faar eie barnekaarets aand med frelsens fryd. I en slik salighetens lykkefølelse faar et Guds barn dog ikke leve hele sitt liv paa denne syndens jord. Sværest blir det naar vi rett faar kjenne det gamle menneske med dets daarende lyster og Satans fristelser. Fra bølgetoppen kan vi saa være nær ved aa synke ned i fortvilelsens dyp.

I anfektelsens ild brenner de falske støtter opp. Det er saa lett aa ha sin kristendom i hodet i stedet for i hjerte og liv. I anfektelsens tider blir det nødvendig aa spørre seg selv: Er din kristendom bare teori — eller har den med samvittighet og hjerteliv aa gjøre? Bygger du ditt salighetshaap paa Kristus, eller paa din egen kristendom? Her bruker Gud anfektelsen til aa redde sjelene ut av selvbedrag og fra selve fortapelsen.

Det gaar ofte saa umerkelig aa komme bort fra den faste frelsens grunn. Trosgrunnlaget blir flyttet fra: Kristus for oss til Kristus i oss. I sin naade lar Gud oss da komme inn i anfektelsens mørke. Men Gud slipper ikke sine. Vi kan miste trosforvisningen, men ikke naaden. Og kommet ut av anfektelsens ild var seglet blankere polert enn noensinne før. Saa hadde anfektelsen vært et middel i Guds haand til aa styrke oss i troen paa Guds uforskyldte naade i Kristus alene.

Det er paa de dype vanne sjelen opplever anfektelsens nød. Den lette stemningskristendom kommer ikke saa dypt. Naar stemningen gir seg og en kjenner seg tom og tørr, lager en gjerne selv noe til for aa faa dampen opp. Saa kommer reaksjonen og det hele blir som en avsvidd mark. Dette er ikke anfektelse. Derimot kan nok troende, som har opplevd lyksalighetens tider med liflige følelser, komme inn i tørre og trange tider med kraftsløshet og en vanmaktsaand, da sjelen blir som et sorgens hus. Kristelig erfaring sier naa ogsaa det: Har jeg opplevd en rett stor glede, saa kan jeg forberede meg paa sorg i en eller annen form. Følelser maa jeg ha. Det er umenneskelig ikke aa ha følelser. Men "jeg har ikke alltid liflige følelser," sa gamle Ole Lange-land. Glad skal en kristen faa være. Men kristengleden er av en annen kvalitet enn den glede som hører jordlivet til. "Som bedrøvede, men alltid glade," 2 Kor. 6, 10.

I kristelig sjelesorg bør vi være klar over at overanstrengelse med en svekket helse og slitte nerver kan føre med seg aandelig nød. Svake nerver nytter sjelefienden ofte til aa

at han vil forunne oss med dem aa leve i Herren og dø i Herren, at vi med dem kan naa til livets opstandelse. —H. Arnholt Strand.

## DET KRISTNE HAAP

Mens vi venter paa det salige haap og aapenbarelsen av Jesu Kristi herlighet. — Tit. 2, 13.

Den gamle pakt levet i haapet. Helt fra begynnelsen av var haapet den bærende del av deres tro. Gud hadde gitt dem nogen løfter, forholdsvis dunkle løfter synes vi. Iallfall i den første tid. Gud hadde lovet at han i "de siste dager" vilde gripe inn med en herlig frelse for sitt utvalgte folk, ja for alle folk.

Ogsaa den nye pakt lever i haapet. Allerede fra første stund utgjorde haapet en av de vesentligste sider ved menighetens nye liv. Og av kirkens historie ser vi, at de tider, da dens liv var friskest og sterkest, alltid var levende fylt av haapet og forventningen om Jesu gjenkomst.

Den gamle pakt haapet paa en ny pakt, den fullkomne gudsaaopenbaring, til soning og frelse fra synden. Den nye pakt er forvisset om aa eie denne fulle gudsaaopenbaring. Og dog lever ogsaa den i haapet.

Men noget absolutt nytt haaper den ikke paa. Det absolutt nye kom til vaar jord da Gud blev menneske og led og døde var vaare synder. Og det menigheten nu haaper er intet annet enn utfoldelsen av det som en gang for alle blev skjenket vaar verden i og med Sønnen.

Det kristne haap er derfor intet annet enn forvisningen om at alle de forløserkrefter som blev satt inn i vaar verden med Jesus Kristus, skal naa sin utviklings maal baade innenfor personverdenen og innenfor naturverdenen.

Det kristne haap bestaar derfor ikke av løsevne bestanddeler som ingen sammenheng har med hverandre eller med livet her paa jorden. Det er meget mere hapet om, at det liv som ved troen allerede er innplantet i oss, men som nu er skjult med Kristus i Gud, at dette liv skal naa sin aapenbare fullendelse. Kol. 3, 3. Derfor nevnes det ogsaa flere ganger, at Aanden som vi har mottatt er pantet paa den arv som venter oss. 2 Kor. 5, 5; Ef. 1, 14; 4, 30.

Haapet er saaledes en del av troen. Haapet er troen paa den del av Kristi forløserverk som han ennu ikke har naadd aa fullføre.

Som følge herav er haapets visshet av samme art som troens visshet. Saavel troen som haapet hviler i Kristus. Det er ham vi tror paa. Det er ham vi haaper paa. Og begge, baade troen og haapet, er knyttet til Ordet om Kristus, enten vissheten gjelder den del av hans verk som hører fortiden til, eller den del som hører fremtiden til. O. Hallesby.

pine sjelen. Her visste alt vaare gamle fedre aa kunne skjelve mellom rent legemlig-nervøse svakhetstilstander og aandelig angektelse. De hadde for øye, at rent fysiske sykdommer som hjerteonde fører med seg angst og nød. Slik er det. Kropp og sjel er bundet sammen med tusen baand. Det maa sjelesorgen ha for øye. Kristelig sjelesorg staar ofte overfor nervøst lidende mennesker, som trenger aa si til seg selv: "Dette er sykdom." Og en mer erfaren sjelesørger vil da kunne gjøre en god gjerning ved aa hjelpe slike lidende mennesker til aa søke spesialutdannede læger, som med nuidens vitenskapelige hjelpemidler kanskje kan komme det syke sinn til hjelp. Dette overflødiggjør ingenlunde kristelig sjelesorg for de syke. At nerve og sinnslidelsen var skyld i den aandelige nød hos de syke, faar vi se. Naar nerver og sinn er kommet i orden, viser det seg at sjelen igjen har faatt det godt med Gud, slik som de hadde det før sykdommen. Gunnar Dehli.

## Litt Sjelesorg

**Spørsmaal:** Jeg begynner at tro at jeg maa høre til de lunkne kristne, ti jeg er saa misfornøyd med mig selv. Jeg staar sa langt tilbake i alle ting. Jesus sier om de lunkne at han vil utspy dem av sin munn. Dette menes vel at jeg er forkastet og kan ikke vente at bli tatt til naade igjen?

\* \* \*

**Svar:** Jesus talte om de lunkne kristne i sitt brev til menigheten i Laodikea; men han sier at de var meget vel fornødd med sig selv. De sa at de var rike og hadde overflod og fattedes intet, og de visste ikke at de var fattige, blinde og nøkne.

De lunkne kristne har det merke, at de er interesserte i alt kristelig. De er med i menigheten og tar del i alt og tror om sig selv at det staar vel til, og kan ikke tro noe annet enn at de staar i det rette forhold til Gud.

Disse lunkne kan være meget snille menighetsfolk og kan faa utrette meget godt med sine gaver til Guds rikes sak; men det er med dem som der staar: De holder sig nær til mig med sin munn og ærer mig med sine leber, men deres hjerte er langt fra mig.

Nu er du, kjære venn, kommet paa den tanke at du hører med til de lunkne kristne paa grunn av den aandelige tilstand du er kommet inn i.

Nei, du hører ikke til de lunkne, men du hører heller til de forsakte. Det er rimelig at du gaar for dig selv. Du har kanskje vanskelig for at tale med noen om din aandelige tilstand. Du ser mest paa dig selv og glemmer at se paa Jesus, din frelser. Du er gjerne ogsaa blitt sløv i bønn og Guds ord betraktning, og kanskje du har møtt noen ubehageligheter i livet, der har bragt bedrøvelser over dig.

Du trenger at komme ut av denne forsakthetens sump.

Det første jeg vil raade dig til er at du vender dig til Gud i bønn og tilstaar for ham dine mange svakheter. Der kan være en særskilt synd som lammer ditt kristenliv. Du kan for eksempel være sur og sær mot dine nærmeste. Det er heller ikke lett at være en frimodig og varmhjertet kristen dersom man er avindsyk eller dersom dømmesykens aand har faatt makten. Det er godt at ha et ærlig oppgjør med Gud i alle disse ting.

Dernæst vil jeg raade dig til at nyde nadverden. Der møter du Jesus paa en særskilt maate. Det er et maal-tid for trette og bekymrede hjerter. Jesus sier til dig. Det er mig. Tenk, faa ta imot Jesus, din frelser. Hans legeme og blod.

Saa vil jeg ogsaa raade dig til at søke samfund med de troende. Der staar jo: Se hvor godt og liflig det er at ogsaa brødre bor tilsammen. I gamle dager hadde vi samtalemøter rundt omkring i menighetene, og jeg kan huske at det var svært opplyvende og ga likesom nytt mot at fortsette paa vandringen.

Disse møter er det blitt mindre av; men vi har dog fremdeles kretsmøter og dessforuten bibelkonferanser, men de fleste av disse er gaatt over til at bruke utelukkende engelsk, og dette blir mer fremmed især for de eldre troende.

Tilslutt vil jeg nevne at du bør benytte dig av alle de anledninger du har at ta del i det aandelige arbeide i menigheten, og presten bør være din nærmeste sjelesørger. S.H.N.

Det er en gaate som ingen tanke har kunnet løse at den hellige vrede over synderens synd hos den levende Gud er forenet med den inderlige barmhjertighet og kjærlighet til synderen. Men saa mange som kjenner Guds evangelium vet at gaaten er løst i Jesus Kristus, Guds enbaarne sønn og vaar Frelser.—Essendrop.



## P.T.L. SUGGESTION FROM THE CAMROSE CIRCUIT L.L.

Has P.T.L. been mentioned often in your League? It is a good idea for the P.T.L. secretary to make a comment or two at most every meeting. It helps to keep Leaguers conscious of the fact that they are members and that there are many others with them carrying and reading their Testaments.

Why should we carry a Testament?

(1) It is the Word of God "which is able to make us wise unto salvation by faith in Christ Jesus."

(2) Because it is the Word of God by which we receive the Holy Spirit's direction and power in Christian living.

(3) So that we may have it to read at any time.

(4) So that we may have it to use to win souls for Christ.

(5) So that we may be reminded of God's presence and guided in making decisions.

The little pamphlet "Take Time for God," which has a memory verse for each week of the year, has these for September (for example):

36th Week—"Withal praying also for us that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds." Col. 4:3.

37th Week—"Lord, thou hast heard the desire of the humble, thou wilt prepare their hearts, thou wilt cause thine ear to hear: To judge the fatherless and the oppressed, that the man of the earth may no more oppress." Ps. 10:17, 18.

38th Week—"Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among them that call upon His name; they called upon the Lord and He answered them." Ps. 99:6.

39th Week—"Then shalt thou call, and the Lord shall answer, thou shalt cry, and He shall say, Here I am. If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the finger, and the speaking vanity." Isa. 57: 9.

Presidents, or P.T.L. secretaries, how about saying these together at the next meeting. Store up God's Word, that you may not sin against Him.

## A "THANK YOU" FROM MISSIONARY JOYCE BERGH

"Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example to them that believe, in word, in manner of life, in love, in faith, in purity." (I Tim. 4: 12).

I express to you, Canada District Luther League, my sincere "thank you" for the very fine gift of a 35 mm. Eastman Kodak camera, which you gave me. This camera takes colored slides. I shall try to take good pictures of the work on the field in Colombia and show them when I come back to Canada on my furlough. It makes my heart rejoice to know that you Leaguers are so interested in missions; it is with a grateful heart that I have with this gift a tangible evidence of your concern for missions; it is good to know that you are backing the missionary effort with your prayers and gifts.

May God richly bless you, the Canada District Luther League, and its new executive, as you launch forth into the work for the Lord this next term. May God's name continue to be glorified through you!

Joyce Bergh.

(It is good to know that Joyce Bergh was given entrance to Colombia and departed by plane from Chicago on September 26, and arrived in Medellin, Colombia, on September 27. Until this time there had been delays in getting a passport and other papers, but the Lord opened the way, and now she begins her new work in Colombia, in the field which our church and the Danish Lutheran Church has taken over from the Celmosa).

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S LUTHER LEAGUE

LUTHER S. OLSON, Editor, Camrose, Alberta

### WITH THE EDITOR

"And he hath said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for thy power is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me." II Cor. 12:9.

It is with a deep sense of responsibility and a feeling of inadequacy that I take over the task set before me. We know that in our own strength we cannot serve Christ. It is one of the joys of a Christian, however, to come to the realization that our weakness is our strength if we permit Him to direct our course. With this knowledge and with the hope that a large L.L. membership will continue to hold this phase of the Luther Leagues' activities before God in prayer. I count it a privilege to labor in God's vineyard as your editor.

Mr. Loken, our retiring editor, deserves our sincerest thanks for the manner in which he carried out his duties as editor of the Y.P.L.L. page. Of him one cannot help but say—"Well done, thou good and faithful servant!" May God continue to bless and use him in other fields.

### PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

"Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong. Let all that ye do be done in love."—(1 Corinthians 16: 13-14).

We stand in the midst of great opportunities as Luther Leaguers. This month of October is a busy month, not only in the fields, and elevators, and creameries and stores, but also in the Church of Jesus Christ in our District. There are stewardship meetings, circuit meetings and Luther League workers' conferences. We pray that there may be much result from this activity.

Especially are we concerned that our Luther Leaguers have made use of the opportunities given in our Luther League Workers' Conferences. Here thoughts should be shared, problems considered, and inspiration received. Preparation is very important, but we are almost beyond that stage now. NOW it remains for us to put these things into practice, in our own Luther League.

In some Leagues, I am told, most of the leaders have gone away to school, or to the city to work. Some Leaguers have asked me if it is possible to continue with only a handful of interested Leaguers. Yes, by all means. It is not numbers that count, but it is souls. One soul helped through a League meeting is more than fitting reward for the efforts you remaining Leaguers put forth. Solicit the help of older Leaguers, and invite those that are still young. If you can be an influence of help to those not formerly in your group, then you are well serving the Kingdom.

We would like to have full reports of the various special events in your circuit and local league this fall. Let us share our experiences in the work.

At the Workers' Conferences you received copies of President Dale's tract, "One Out of Every Ten." When you plan your stewardship meeting in October or November, distribute these to all those in your congregation. This will not only help your League, but will assist in this District Educational program as well. It would be interesting to find out how many "tithers" we have in our District Luther Leagues. I know of quite a number, and all tell how it helps them in their Christian life, and gives them great joy in their giving. But the idea is to learn the proper use of our means, talents and lives, and then God will richly bless us. "Stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong."—Olaf K. Storaasli.

### THE CHURCH STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

"Give an account of thy stewardship, for thou mayest no longer be steward." Luke 16:2.

The above words come from the lips of Jesus and are a portion of the parable of the unjust steward. The time came when he was called before his master, there to give an account of all that had been entrusted to him.

We are all stewards of God. We are stewards of the life God has given us—of soul, body, time, talent, money, opportunity to do good, to live for Christ in every way. But for each of us there will come the time when God will say: "Give an account of your stewardship. You may no longer be a steward in this life: How that thought should challenge us!

We come to realize that the only way we can face that great "Stewardship" accounting is to dedicate all that we are and all that we have to God and His service. The first surrender involves the soul. We are saved by grace. But many think that salvation is such a spiritual thing that it never quite gets down to earth. And so, while thanking God for saving such a super-mundane thing as their soul, they still continue to live for self in the things of this world. In the church we still hear the substance of the words of Cain: "Am I my brother's keeper?" And that from the lips of the devout in many cases. It must be that they do not realize what they do. "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

We must bring our salvation into all the areas of life. We must dedicate our earthly possessions to God. Jesus says that we are known by our fruits; and James very pointedly tells us that we have a dead faith if we can see brother or sister in need of daily food and do nothing. We are not good stewards if we have no place for God and his church in our administration of time or talent or money. God has his rights and we should recognize our stewardship right here and now. If we do not we starve ourselves of some of life's greatest spiritual experiences. How wonderfully the power and love of God can be seen by one who is a steward of God!

Now this leads up to the great opportunity that is ours as Luther Leaguers in the coming stewardship rallies of our church. This fall all of the 10 circuits of our church are stressing the stewardship campaign which is under the direction of our District President, the Rev. Mars A. Dale. Our Canadian church needs to take hold of its great "Home" task. Can we not become a "Self-supporting" church? Can we not grow up as a church even as we did as individuals? As individuals we support ourselves. Why not as a church?

Let us realize that we must reinforce our Christian confession with our deeds. In fact, our greatest confession is written in deeds. We must and we will dedicate a portion of God's gifts to the work of His church.

Luther Leaguers! Put your fervent prayers and your personal interest behind the district stewardship program. Put in a good word for it. Boost it! Look to God for great things.

And when pledge Sunday comes let us give tangible evidence of the living Christ within. Start in with a 5% pledge to the work of the kingdom of God. Just think 5% of an income of only \$1,000 a year would be \$50 or in round figures \$1.00 for Christ each Sunday. In the Old Testament God asked for 10%. Yet, in our stewardship we have often dealt with dimes and quarters, etc. How we have cheated God and held back from letting the gospel forth in all its power!

Are we going to limp ahead—or really go ahead!

As Luther Leaguers we are a part

### THE POCKET TESTAMENT LEAGUE

"I thank my God upon every remembrance of you."—Phil. 1:3. I do just that when I think of you splendid Christian Luther Leaguers I had the privilege of meeting at that unforgettable convention at Moose Jaw last July and I am glad to have this opportunity at this time to greet you all in Jesus' name.

P.T.L. Secretaries.—I know you are going to do your utmost this year to enroll every Luther Leaguer in your group—and then why not try and get every church member? What a different Church we'd have if every member read His Word diligently.

Let us not take for granted His Word contains many precious promises, truths, etc.—search for them—memorize those verses which have blessed us especially and store them in our hearts. Marvel then how they'll come to our mind when troubled, heartsick—yes when our faith is at low ebb. We'll find ourselves lifting our hearts to Him in thanksgiving and praise because of the renewed strength we have received from this wonderful "author and finisher of every good and perfect gift"—and what a gift His Book is!

To get to know this author better we must read His Book wherein He teaches us how to live and for whom. He reveals His will for us! What exaltations we have in His rules of life! What depth of wisdom there is in His speeches and how decisive and authoritative are His answers! What rich and immeasurable treasure we find! The Bible reveals us to ourselves—as we are—and God to us and it does for us just what it promises to do.

We know that great men of God spent hours reading His inspired word—how dare we be so presumptuous as to think it is not necessary for us to read a few chapters each day. Our bodies require food and so do our souls and it is more essential that our souls be fed because in God's sight our soul is much more important.

Pastor Dale reminded us at our L.L. convention that each Luther Leaguer has a part in the Great Commission. What a challenge! Are we doing anything about it or are we just saying "My that was a good message!" Come, let us read our Bibles that we may be effective workers—we know that His Work is the "Work of the Spirit."—Eph. 6:17.

Luther Leaguers let us make our Christian experience the most vital, important and thrilling part of our life—keep it alive, keep it growing, nourish it and having once "put our hand to the plow"—let us go forward and not look back!

Miss Esther Lindland,  
P.T.L. Sec'y (Can. Djs.)

The highest place we can reach in this life is to be bowed low at the feet of Jesus.

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of the church. As a part of the church let us all get behind the District Stewardship campaign.

M. S. Johnson.